

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Chief, Research &amp; Development Branch

22 April 1959

Chief, Research &amp; Development Laboratory

Study; First Section (Project 2529)

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1. At the completion of the prototype [redacted], the R&D Laboratory was requested to examine the feasibility of undertaking a similar program to develop a portable electronic [redacted]. The [redacted] to be considered will have a minimum storage capacity of 30 groups and will be suitable for field use. The study has been divided into two sections: the first to examine the advisability of assigning such a program to the R&D Laboratory in terms of current projects, and its staffing and equipment capability, and the second to estimate what the program will actually involve or require in terms of new circuit development, time, cost, etc. The following paragraphs summarize the first section of the study.

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2. The development of a small, portable [redacted] with a 50 to 100 group capacity [redacted] use appears to be feasible at this time. Although some of the commercial components required in such a device are still in evolution with respect to performance, production uniformity, and cost, it is believed that they are sufficiently close to their final form to start R&D activity now with low probability of severe subsequent revision.

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3. Although the developmental phase of the [redacted] project will be extensive in comparison with other Laboratory projects, it will not be unduly if carried out on a full-time routine basis. Two design engineers should be assigned full time with support as required from the remaining Laboratory units. The increase in work load on units other than the assigned design group will be slight during the development period and nominal, as compared with other Laboratory projects, during fabrication of the prototype. Effort will be made to use commercially available subassemblies wherever practical. Sufficient electronic instrumentation is already on hand to handle all foreseen requirements.

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4. The experience gained by the engineers of the R&D Laboratory during the [redacted] development program is directly applicable to the circuit development required for the [redacted]. Actually, the basic design of many circuits can be carried over intact to the new program.

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5. It is believed that the R&D Laboratory now possesses the capability to process successfully the development program required by the [redacted]. An estimate of the man-power effort and material cost involved is being prepared and will shortly be forwarded

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with our recommendation that the project be formally assigned  
to the Laboratory.

*[Handwritten signature]*



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Lab/NCP/JHS/JCT/rkb (22 April 1959)

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